

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (New) A device for preventing dislocation of a hip arthroplasty implant, the hip arthroplasty implant comprising an acetabular cup to be mounted in the acetabular cavity of a pelvis, a femoral stem to be mounted in the proximal end of a femoral bone and having a femoral neck, and a femoral head to be mounted on the femoral neck and to be situated in a receiving cavity of the acetabular cup;

the device comprising:

a tubular collar for executing a restraining force opposing movements of the femoral bone leading to positions where dislocations can occur, the tubular collar being formed in an elastic material with openings and having a first end and a second end;

a first fastening means for fastening the first end in fixed relation to and at least partly encircling the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup; and

a second fastening means for fastening the second end in fixed relation to and at least partly circumventing the femoral neck to prevent longitudinal movement of the second end along the femoral neck and rotational movement of the second end around the femoral neck.

16. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the tubular collar is elastic in at least a longitudinal direction.

17. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the tubular collar is elastic in at least a radial direction.

18. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the tubular collar is an elastic mesh.

19. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the first fastening means comprises a ring attached to the first end, the ring having one or more protrusions on or incisions in a first surface, and wherein an accessible surface part of the acetabular cup, or of a flange to be fixed on the acetabular cup, has at least one corresponding incision or protrusion.

20. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the second fastening means comprises a ring attached to the second end, the ring having one or more protrusions on or incisions in an internal circumference, and wherein the femoral neck or a flange to be fixed on the femoral neck has at least one corresponding incision or protrusion around its outer circumference.

21. (New) The device according to claim 15, wherein the second fastening means comprises a ring attached to the second end, the ring having a slot, and a clamp formed as an open ring to be inserted in said slot, and wherein the femoral neck or a flange to be fixed on the femoral neck, has an outer circumference with a shape corresponding to a shape of the inner circumference of said clamp.

22. (New) A method for stabilization of a hip arthroplasty implant with a device for preventing dislocation of the hip arthroplasty implant,

the hip arthroplasty implant comprising an acetabular cup mounted in the acetabular cavity of a pelvis, a femoral stem mounted in the proximal end of a femoral bone and having a femoral neck, and a femoral head to be mounted on the femoral neck and to be situated in a receiving cavity of the acetabular cup,

the device for preventing dislocation comprising an elastic tubular collar having a first end to be mounted in fixed relation to and at least partly encircling the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup, and a second end to be mounted in fixed relation to and at least partly circumventing the femoral neck,

the method preventing dislocation of the hip arthroplasty implant by the steps of:

providing a joint of a hip implant in a neutral position with a tubular collar being fixedly mounted;

moving the joint of the hip implant away from the neutral position; and

executing a force restraining the movement of the femoral neck and a force pulling the femoral head towards the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the movement of the joint is chosen from a group of movements selected from the group consisting of flexion movement in a sagittal plane, extension movement in a sagittal plane, adduction movement in a frontal plane, abduction movement in a frontal plane, external rotation in a transverse plane and internal rotation in a transverse plane,

24. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the movement of the joint is selected from the group consisting of axial rotation around a longitudinal axis of the femoral neck, planar rotations where the angle between the femoral neck and the acetabular cup changes, combinations of axial and planar rotations, and any translation.

25. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the force restraining the movement of the femoral neck increase proportionally to an amplitude of the movement.

26. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the force restraining the movement of the femoral neck increase nonlinearly with an amplitude of the movement.

27. (New) A method for mounting a device for preventing dislocation on a hip arthroplasty implant,

the hip implant comprising an acetabular cup mounted in the acetabular cavity of a pelvis, a femoral stem mounted in the proximal end of a femoral bone and having a femoral neck, and a femoral head to be mounted on the femoral neck and to be situated in a receiving cavity of the acetabular cup;

the device for preventing dislocation comprising:

a tubular collar having a first end and a second end, the tubular collar being elastic in at least a longitudinal direction;

a first fastening means for fastening of the first end at least partly encircling the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup; and

a second fastening means for fastening of the second end in fixed relation to and at least partly circumventing the femoral neck,

the method comprising the steps of:

mounting the tubular collar to the femoral neck and positioning the femoral head in the acetabular cup with the leg containing the femoral stem situated anatomically;

positioning the leg in a neutral position;

fastening the first end in fixed relation to and encircling the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup with the first fastening means; and

fastening the second end in fixed relation to and circumventing the femoral neck with the second fastening means,

wherein the steps of fastening the first or second end with the first or second fastening means, respectively, comprises the step of uniformly tightening or stretching the tubular collar, so that the tubular collar during movement of the leg exerts a force restraining the movement of the femoral neck and a force pulling the femoral head towards the receiving cavity of the acetabular cup.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the step of applying the tubular collar to the hip arthroplasty implant comprises the steps of mounting the tubular collar on the femoral neck so that the second end encircles of the femoral neck and thereafter mounting the femoral head on the femoral neck.